

Amendments to the Claims

1.-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method, comprising:

initially setting a voice over packet channel to voice mode at an originating gateway;
determining that a modem calling the gateway is a high speed modem;
determining if the channel has at least one of either voice echo cancellation or voice compression is enabled;
disabling voice compression and voice echo cancellation, if enabled;
enabling modem echo cancellation;
suppressing modem signals from the high speed modem from being transmitted by the originating gateway to a receiving modem through a receiving gateway;
negotiating with the high-speed modem to establish the connection, wherein the negotiation is a truncated, V.34 Phase 1 negotiation; and
upon completion of the negotiating, establishing a modem relay connection.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein determining that the modem is a high speed modem further comprises detecting a V.8 call menu.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein negotiating with the high-speed modem further comprises:

performing a local, truncated phase 1 negotiation under International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standard V.34;

receiving two identical call menus from the high-speed modem;

completing the phase 1 negotiation and a physical layer startup under ITU standard V.8.

24. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a processor to set a voice over packet channel to voice mode at an originating gateway;
a code detector to determine that a modem calling the gateway is a high speed modem;
a signal suppression mechanism to suppress signals between the high speed modem and a receiving modem;

a pass-through mode invocation mechanism to:

determine if the channel has at least one of either voice echo cancellation or voice compression is enabled;

disable voice compression and voice echo cancellation, if enabled; and

enable modem echo cancellation; and

a proxy negotiation mechanism to negotiate with the high-speed modem to establish the connection and establish a modem relay connection, wherein the negotiation is a truncated, V.34 Phase 1 negotiation.

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the code detector to determine that the modem is a high speed modem is further to detect a V.8 call menu.

26. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the proxy negotiation mechanism to negotiate with the high-speed modem is further to:

~~perform a local, truncated phase 1 negotiation under International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standard V.34;~~

receive two identical call menus from the high-speed modem;

complete the phase 1 negotiation and a physical layer startup under ITU standard V.8.